

A method and apparatus for stabilizing a blow molded plastic preform and container in a blow mold during a demolding operation. The blow mold has a first mold section, a second mold section, and a mandrel. The mandrel cooperates with a pair of spring loaded jaws slidably coupled to one or both of the mold sections. With the mold sections in their fully open position, the mandrel with an attached preform and/or container travels into the blow mold. During the final stage of closing the mold sections, the jaws contact the finish and restrain the container. As the mold sections begin to open, the jaws prevent any movement of the container relative to the mandrel.